

THE ALMA RECORD

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF ALMA, MICHIGAN

SELF-DETERMINATION

In the "Good old days" people gave voice to and put into practice several maxims in regard to the rearing of their children. They said that "Children should be seen and not heard," that to "Spare the rod was to spoil the child," and they lived up to the theories they voiced. To be sure they carried these ideas to excess in some cases but the children mostly survived the treatment and lived to grow up respected and valuable citizens. Today the pendulum has swung to the opposite extreme and with our schools, many of them, openly advocating the "Self-Determination Theory" and putting it into practice, and many parents following the lead of the schools, we sometimes wonder what the ultimate outcome may be. Now far be it for us to criticize the stand taken by many famous educators. They are evidently sincere in their stand and have good arguments to offer in support of this theory. We are merely puzzled as to its practicality and wonder why the world has been so slow to adopt it if it has so much of real value in it.

Mother Nature, as we all know, is a stern disciplinarian. No one can long violate her laws without paying the penalty. She has stringent rules of health, which violated soon send the violator to the hospital or to his little narrow house. Animals acting through instinct discipline their young in order to teach them to protect themselves from their enemies. The State makes strict laws through which it may govern its citizens and guarantee them their rights. Violations of these laws carry with them appropriate punishment. All this is necessary for the protection of society.

Now just why the human child during the years of its immaturity, should be allowed to determine its own destiny, unrestrained and unadvised, remains a puzzle to our minds. We all know that a child acts largely upon impulse, that he lacks judgment, in fact that he is primarily a healthy young animal with the impulses of an animal. All his future must be filled with the acquisition of knowledge, if he is ever to rise much above the status of an animal. True he will learn much from experience, but experience is an inexorably stern teacher and there is no escape from the damaging effects of some of her teachings any more than from the beneficial effects of others. And so we wonder if it should not be practical and even advisable for the parents, teachers, and guardians of children, men and women of mature minds, well schooled in the academy of experience, to still supervise the training of children of immature minds. Certainly it goes with out saying that through such supervision the child may be saved much damaging experience, and he will certainly be much pleasanter to live with while he is coming up.

We have all had the experience of visiting in homes where the "Self-Determination theory" is put into practice. I do not think that we care usually to visit such homes very often. It is pleasanter for us to remain away until the children are reared. We have also visited other homes where the opposite condition exists, and have been glad to visit those homes again. We have also watched the development of the children from these two types of homes and have noted that while the children from home No. 1 sometimes make good citizens in after years, the children from home No. 2 almost invariably do so. We do not believe in extremes of any kind, but at least this subject should be worthy of the careful consideration of every person who has anything to do with the training of children, the most important work in the world.

TWO MILLION VOTES

At the recent election, the citizens of the United States polled the greatest number of votes ever cast in the history of the country, due to the fact that the women have come into the right of franchise, and further influenced by the intense interest in settling an unsatisfactory condition of things.

The large vote was significant and showed that people are alive to the needs of government, but the most significant thing of the whole election was the fact that two million people cast their votes for Eugene V. Debs who is in jail serving a sentence for sedition for plotting against the interests of his government in time of war, doing and advocating things that gave aid to the enemy.

This vote is a danger signal that we must heed and we must make plans to quell that kind of sentiment which has been growing rapidly of late or we will be facing a condition of chaos such as exists in Russia.

It is an indisputable fact that a large number of people in this country show no respect to our flag. In fact they prefer the red flag of anarchy to the Stars and Stripes, they openly advocate violence, and plainly say that they want license instead of liberty, and look upon freedom as the privilege to carry out their own selfish plans regardless of the rights of others. This number of people is comparatively small at present but they are tireless agitators who are continually against organized government and restraining force which interferes with their desire to take what they want regardless of right.

One cannot read the daily papers without being impressed with the spirit of utter lawlessness which has spread over the land. More than fifty per cent of the headlines herald murder, robbery, theft, house breaking, hold-ups, and various other crimes, all of which show a disrespect for law and order. Repeatedly, people have trampled upon the flag of our government and received very little punishment for the crime. Our courts are lax in meting out justice to those who plot against the Government, and disturbers go to almost any length in showing their disregard for law, and their contempt for authority. This condition is a real menace to our country and steps should be taken at once to make these red flag advocates obey the law, respect the Government, and recognize authority or get out of the country.

Never before in the history of this country have we been so threatened with disaster as we are now because of a general disregard for the constitution and what it has stood for in the past. A soap box orator on the street corner will stand by the hour and vilify the Government without any particular interference and as a result, we have a lot of people with very crooked ideas of right and wrong, and perverted theories which threaten the destruction of the Government.

The greatest need of today is a wholesome respect for Government and a resolution on the part of every one of us to see that our laws are obeyed and the Stars and Stripes are not permitted to suffer insult at the hands of anyone at any time.

The Republicans have not only taken the cake but lugged off most of the bakery, now it is up to them to put into effect a constructive program and prove to the world some of their contentions. Large contentions always call for large accomplishment.

There is going to be a period of readjustment. It has to come. Now is the time for us all to trot out our horse-sense and make the best possible use of it. Just keep up courage, take a loss if necessary, and don't let on if you should feel like squealing.

Old fashioned folks seem to think that Mayor McSweeney might have helped the cause of Ireland more by living than he could by starving himself to death. Somehow it is hard for some of us to get accustomed to new and up-to-date ideas.

BOWLING LEAGUE

Contests Have Been Started by Newly Formed League.

A bowling league has been formed here, which is composed of the men who were on the various teams of the city last year and a number of men from the various teams of the Republic Bowling league last year. There are six teams in the bowling league, composed of the very best available talent of the city, and some hot matches are in prospect during the winter months. It is regarded as more than possible that at times during the course of the winter teams from Saginaw, Bay City, Mt. Pleasant and other nearby cities will be brought here to compete with the best teams of the local league.

The schedule of the local league is already under way, the Luchini alleys being used for the matches. Results for the week, ending November 6 follow:

Monday, November 1st, Team No. 3 won three by default, Team No. 5 not appearing.

Wednesday, November 3rd

TEAM NO. 1
 Sawyer 154 165 98 417
 Grubb 158 141 133 432
 Seig 152 197 222 571
 Mallory 206 180 154 549
 Oakes 192 171 178 541

TEAM NO. 4
 Minnis 147 143 176 466
 Grabowski 162 123 148 433
 Bensinger 164 190 127 481
 Mulvey 210 198 206 614
 Rogers 179 148 187 515

TEAM NO. 2
 Hanson 138 165 125 428
 G. H. Brown 121 122 144 387
 Devogt 153 130 117 400
 J. Brown 185 176 142 503
 Johnson 146 181 159 486

TEAM NO. 6
 Seaver 121 179 137 437
 Atkinson 150 157 120 427
 Wilson 118 183 102 403
 V. Corry 132 187 119 438
 R. Corry 152 153 142 447

TEAM NO. 5
 673 859 620 2152

Team Standings

Team No. 4 (Minnis) 9* 6 2 750

Team No. 2 (J. Brown) 9 6 3 667

Team No. 1 (Oakes) 9* 5 3 625

Team No. 6 (Corry) 9* 5 4 444

Team No. 3 (Fay) 9 5 6 333

Team No. 5 (Martin) 9 2 7 222

*Have a tie game to be rolled off.

PIONEER DEAD

Daniel Porter Struble Died Here Thursday Night.

Daniel Porter Struble, a resident of Alma for the past thirty-five years died at his home on Woodworth avenue Thursday night following an illness of more than a year. He was 70 years of age.

Mr. Porter was born in 1850 in Fulton county, Ohio, but early in life moved with his parents to Michigan, settling in New Haven township. For many years he aided his father on the farm and then took up his trade as a mason. Following his marriage in 1874 he moved to Carson City, where he followed his trade, and later moved to Vestaburg. In 1885 he moved to Alma, and since that time had made this city his home, gaining a large circle of friends among the older people of the city, who knew him best.

During the earlier months of his illness he was able to get around to some extent, but for the past three months had been confined to his bed.

He is survived by his wife, one daughter, Mrs. D. L. Johnson, one son, Walter, of Detroit, three sisters, Mrs. E. Adams of Vestaburg, Mrs. J. P. Taft of Vestaburg, and Mrs. Joseph Myra of New Haven township and by one brother, Frank, of Alma.

The funeral was held Saturday afternoon, in charge of Alma lodge No. 244, F. & A. M., of which he had been a member. Rev. Shouffer had charge of the short service at the home. The body was placed in the vault in Riverside cemetery.

COMMUNICATION

Alma, Nov. 6, 1920.

Mr. H. S. Barcock, Editor,

Alma, Mich.

Dear Sir:

In your paper of November 4th, you say on page one, in speaking of the County ticket:

"There had been some little worry expressed in some quarters in regard to the possible chances that Bernie Case, county clerk, might be defeat-

ed in view of the hard campaign that was waged for Sarah Brodebeck. The fight that Miss Brodebeck put up to become Gratiot's first woman office holder, allowed her to finish just slightly better than the balance of the ticket, some few votes in a number of precincts in various parts of the county, giving her a slight lead over the others of her ticket."

I spoke on the street to Homer Dunham regarding this matter, and asked him to correct it. I do not know that he will, and therefore, I am writing to you about it. The published table of county election returns in your paper shows that Miss Brodebeck ran ahead of James Cox, candidate for President, in every voting precinct in Gratiot county, except one, from seven to seventy-five votes. The adverse majority against her was, according to the same table, 3313. The average majority against the candidates of probable judge, sheriff, register of deeds and county treasurer was 4778. Miss Brodebeck, therefore, was defeated by a majority of 1465 less than the average majority of the candidates named upon the county ticket. The statement quoted from your paper is false therefore, in every particular. I am only interested in giving a meritorious young woman the credit to which she is entitled as a candidate, and I think it very creditable to use the language which you did in your paper, referred to in speaking of her vote as "just slightly better than that the balance of the ticket," and that she ran ahead in some "few votes" in a "number of precincts," and having only a "slight lead over the others on the ticket."

I should very much appreciate it if you would make a correction in your next issue of your paper.

Yours truly,

W. A. Bahlke.

(It was not the intention of the article to offer an affront, or in any way show disrespect to Miss Brodebeck, and if she feels herself aggrieved, we hasten to apologize for any, unintentional slight which might be drawn from the wording of the report. From what we have heard of Miss Brodebeck's character and qualifications we expected her to give Mr. Case a very close race and simply expressed surprise that she did not, without any thought of misrepresentation or disrespect.—The Editor.)

COMING TO ALMA

Perhaps the greatest picture The Famous Players-Lasky has screened in the past year or two is that remarkable historical picture story called "The Copperhead." It is the film story of a man, who, in the secret service of his country, especially sworn to secrecy by Lincoln, braved the scorn and contempt of his townspeople, friends and even his family in order to keep faith with his country, his President and his God. The kind of a picture we want more of.

Alma is fortunate in having this great picture come here as it is a new picture, costing a great sum to secure, and little seen outside of the larger cities. It will be seen at the Methodist church next Thursday, November 18. On account of the large crowd who will desire to see the picture it has been determined to show the picture at an afternoon matinee at 3 o'clock.

This is in the program of the free community entertainments given by the Methodist church. There will be no admission charged. A cordial invitation is extended to every body. Children coming to either the afternoon or evening entertainment should be in charge of their parents or older friends. The evening program will be at 7:45.

ATTENTION MERCHANTS

I will be at the Park Hotel, St. Louis, Michigan, from 8 to 9 p. m. evenings until November 20th, will be glad to meet General Merchants, Furniture, Hardware and Jewelry Dealers. I know I can show you how to overcome any of your Merchandise problems that confront you today and will be glad to give you the benefit of my years of experience with merchants from coast to coast, without the least obligation.

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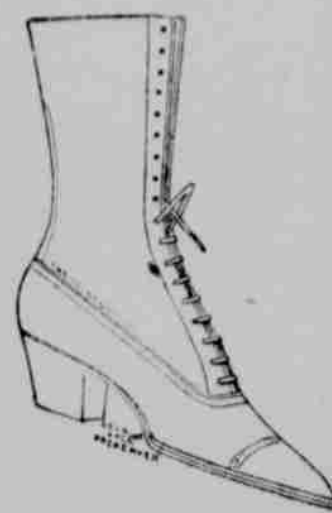
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EVERYBODY WANTS LOWER PRICES: WE FEEL THE ONLY WAY TO BRING THEM DOWN IS TO PUT THEM DOWN—AND WE'VE DONE IT.

We believe the "psychological moment" for a re-adjustment in your living costs is RIGHT NOW;—here's our contribution:—Our entire stock of Men's and Boys' Fall and Winter Clothing, Headwear, Furnishings, Shoes, Trousers—everything in the store at reductions that stamp this the greatest apparel-buying opportunity since the war.

My three years in Alma has shown that this store—its methods—the character of its merchandise—its standards of value-giving are a guarantee of a clean, new, up-to-date stock of merchandise that can't be beaten anywhere.

Don't miss this opportunity. We are making this sale to reduce stock and you get the benefit. Our sale is still in full blast, but when it is over such values will not be offered again. Now is the time to act—read the prices on our window hangers.

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SPECIAL SALE

3 bars P G Soap . . . 23c 3 bars Ivory Soap . . . 25c
 3 bars Lenox Soap . . . 20c 3 bars Flake White . . . 20c
 2 cakes Palm Olive . . . 19c Grandpa Soap, a bar . . . 8c
 Argo Starch
 Matches—per carton—6 boxes 30c
 High grade Japan Green Tea, was 80c lb, now . . . 60c
 No. 1 Coffee, was 55c per lb., now 49c
 Kellogg's Corn Flakes, 2 pkgs. for 25c

OUR STORE IS OPEN EVERY NIGHT IN THE WEEK

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